GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
WATER RESOURCES
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1373
ANSWERED ON:26.11.2001
DEVASTATION BY OVERFLOWING RIVERS
DINESH CHANDRA YADAV;NAWAL KISHORE RAI;RAMJI LAL SUMAN;SUSHIL KUMAR INDORA

Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether rivers flowing from neighbouring countries into various parts of the country during monsoon, cause huge loss of life and property;

(b) if so, the names of the rivers and the countries from which they are flowing along with areas, where they cause devastation;

(c) the average quantity of additional water brought by these rivers into the country;

(d) the average annual loss suffered as a result thereof;

(e) whether the Government have held discussions with neighbouring countries in this regard and formulated any scheme to control the water of these rivers; and

(f) if so, the time by which the work on the said scheme is likely to commence?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SMT. BIJOYA CHAKRAVARTY)

(a) & (b) The major rivers namely, Ghaghra, Rapti, Gandak, Burhi Gandak, Adhwara Group of Rivers, Kamla Balan, Bagrnati, Kosi, Mahananda, Torsa, Raidak Sankosh, Gaurang, Puthimari, Beki-Manas-Aie, Pagladiya, Subansiri, Lohit, Siang and Sultej flowing from Nepal Bhutan and China cause flood duing monsoon inthe States of Uttar Pradesh, Bihar, West Bengal,Assam, Arunachal Pradesh and Himachal Pradesh resulting in loss of life and property.

(c) Detailed assessment for the quantum of water brought by these rivers has not been done, so far.

(d) The estimated average annual loss in the States of Uttar Pradesh, Bihar, West Bengal, Assam, Arunachal Pradesh and Himachal Pradesh caused due to floods (period 1953 to 2000) from all the rivers of the States are as under:

Sl. No.	Name of State	Estimated Area affected (m.ha)	Estimated lost (Nos) Human lives	Estimated damages to crops, houses & public utilities (Rs. Crore)	Total
1.	Uttar Pradesh	2.057	296	260.378	
2.	Bihar	1.346	126	117.474	
3.	West Bengal	0.842	169	132.538	
4.	Assam	0.911	40	70.498	
5.	Arunachal Pradesh	0.005	3	7.453	
6.	Himachal Pradesh	0.080	39	79.679	

(e) & (f) To mitigate the problem of floods created by the rivers coming from Nepal, Bhutan and China, negotiations are on with these countries. However, preparation of a Joint Detailed Project Report for Pancheshwar Multipurpose project on river Mahakali (Sarda in India) by the Government of India and Government of Nepal is in progress.